

REMARKS

Amendments to the Specification

The specification has been amended to include a claim to the benefit of prior applications. The benefit claim as noted on the executed oath and the filing receipt stated that the current application was a divisional application of the parent application. However, the current application was not filed in response to a restriction requirement during the prosecution of the parent application. Accordingly, the relationship to the parent has been amended herein to reflect that this application is a continuation rather than a divisional of the parent application.

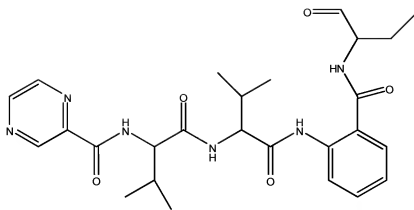
It is not believed that a surcharge and petition under 37 CFR § 1.78(a)(3) are required, as the claim to the benefit was included in the new Utility Patent Application Transmittal submitted to the USPTO on July 7, 2003 and was recognized by the Office as shown by its inclusion on the Filing Receipt mailed from the USPTO on January 20, 2004 (see MPEP 201.11 III. V.)

Amendments to the Claims

Claims 1, 2, 9, 11, 13, 14, 16, 21, 22, 27, and 38 have been amended to correct typographical errors and to correct claim dependencies. Claims 4-5, 10, and 12 have been canceled as the subject matter of these claims has been introduced into Claim 1. New Claim 38 has been added support for which can be found in the instant specification Table 1, pages 21 through 22. No new matter has been added as a result of these amendments.

Requirement for Election of Species

In response to the requirement for the election of species, applicants hereby elect the following species:



This compound is shown as species 108 on page 22 of the instant application. Claims readable on this species are 1, 3, 6 – 7, 9, 11, 13, 19 – 30, 33, 34, and 39.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner enter the above amendments, consider the foregoing remarks, and allow the pending claims to issue. If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution, he is invited to call the applicants' undersigned agent at any time.

Respectfully submitted,

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